

Colley of Thys & Lang.

New York. Nov. 1872

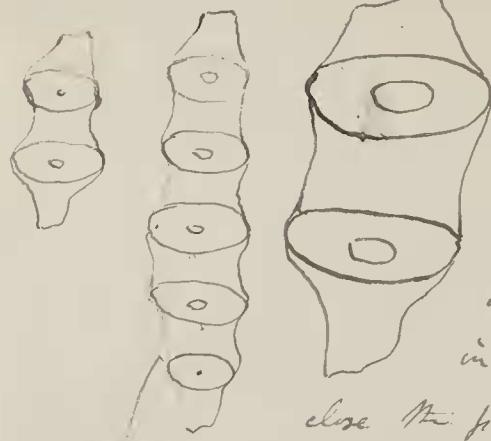
Dear Gray

I will be back from Dr Torrey's room
at the College - you old stamping ground - to ask you to
put the accompanying pamphlets in the way to reach those to whom
they are addressed - I believe I have sent about as many as I
did before, but I have forgotten the names of all those to whom
copies were first sent - I have just sent a package to Duckett
with copies for English botanists &c - but have sent none to the Continent

I am busy on the subject of the crystalline matter in plants particularly
trees, and think I have got some interesting general conclusions, and novel
matter, novel at least as far as I can judge from the English and
French publications on the subject - I want you to look into Meyen,
first volume and see if there is much important matter on this subject -
If there is, will you send me the vol. our Koenigs express to care of Dr
Shilton - or if short, why off for me the high Dutch and I can make out
its meaning tolerably well - I have the 3^d vol of Meyen belonging
to you and will leave it with Dr Torrey for you

I noticed a day or two ago, a curious structure in the external

portion of the vascular bundles of *Cactus vulgaris*. Outside of the
vessel there is a good deal of tissue composed of cells like those



having very thin walls, and very thick discs or rings,
~~thus~~ dividing the large cell into smaller ones

The discs sometimes show only a central spot indicating a
perforation - The structure is such as would result
if in a common annular duct, the ring should thicken
in the direction of its plane so as wholly or partially to
close the perforation - I strongly suspect that is really the origin
of these discs, but I find no mention of any thing analogous in Lindley's botany

I hope you find your new duties and situation very pleasant -

As I write in much haste excuse ~~some~~ abrupt termination

and believe me ever cordially

To you -

Your friend

J. W. Bailey

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